Int'l Appl. No.: PCT/US2004/020,584

Preliminary Amendment dated December 22, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph that begins on page 15, line 7, as

follows:

A modified form of the invention may employ a linking structure comprising

an extendable/retractable fluid rod/cylinder assembly to raise or lower the spider

which while the elevator remains stationary. In such a modification, the

rod/cylinder assemblies are carried by the elevator and are attached to the spider

when actuated to retract, the assemblies raise the open spider above the

coupling of the just added pipe section to permit the control lines to be clamped

to the pipe. Extension of the rod/cylinder assembly places the spider back on the

floor where it may be released from the two assemblies, permitting the two

assemblies to retract to permit lowering of the attached pipe string. The spider is

thereafter closed on the pipe to support the string and the next pipe section is

added. The described process is repeated as pipe is added to the string. In

similar fashion, rod/cylinder assemblies mounted on the rig floor may act as the

linking structures to raise and lower the spider as required to provide access

below the spider for clamping control lines.

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